OPINION 1337
SELKIRKIA COLUMBIA CONWAY MORRIS, 1977 DESIGNATED AS TYPE SPECIES OF *SELKIRKIA* WALCOTT, 1911 (PRIAPULIDA)

RULING — (1) Under the plenary powers, all designations of type species hitherto made for the nominal genus *Selkirkia* Walcott, 1911 are hereby set aside and *Selkirkia columbia* Conway Morris, 1977 is hereby designated as type species of that genus.

(2) The generic name *Selkirkia* Walcott, 1911 (gender: feminine), type species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1) above, *Selkirkia columbia* Conway Morris, 1977, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2275.

(3) The specific name *columbia* Conway Morris, 1977 as published in the binomen *Selkirkia columbia* (the valid name at the time of this ruling for the type species of *Selkirkia* Walcott, 1911) is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2995.

HISTORY OF THE CASE Z.N.(S.)2171

An enquiry concerning the nomenclature of certain Cambrian fossils was first received from Dr Simon Conway Morris (*Department of Geology, University of Cambridge*) on 8 March 1976. After a period of correspondence a formal application was received on 19 May 1976. After further correspondence a revised draft was sent to the printers on 16 February 1978 and published on 31 July 1978 in *Bull. zool. Nom.*, vol. 35, pp. 49–50. Public notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the statutory serials, to six general and two palaeontological serials. No comment was received.

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 15 January 1985 the members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month rule on Voting Paper (1985)1 for or against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 35, p. 50. At the close of the voting period on 15 April 1985 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative Votes — twenty-three (23) received in the following order: Melville, Brinck, Holthuis, Savage, Lehtinen, Willink, Sabrosky, Trjapitzin, Hahn, Mroczkowski, Cocks, Starobogatov, Bayer, Alvarado, Corliss, Uéno, Schuster, Kraus, Cogger, Heppell, Bernardi, Dupuis, Ride

Negative Votes — none (0).

Late affirmative votes were received from Halvorsen and Binder.

Holthuis commented: 'The taxonomy of the three species is still very unsettled and uncertain. Furthermore none of the three seem to be of great importance in general, applied or popular science, and are not frequently used. Therefore it seems to me that there is no good reason not to apply the

rules strictly. From the application it is not clear to what genus *Orthotheca major* Walcot, 1908 (and its synonym *Selkirkia gracilis* Walcot, 1911) are to be assigned, otherwise than that it is different from the genus containing *S. columbia*. Mr Melville (in litt.) informs me that this genus is the true *Orthotheca* Novak, 1877. In that case *Selkirkia* would disappear in synonymy and cause no harm. A new generic name then has to be coined for *S. columbia*. As that species received its specific name *columbia* very recently (1977), evidently without causing any confusion, why should a new generic name cause so much confusion that the plenary powers of the Commission are needed to avoid that? [This comment resulted in prolonged correspondence, via the Secretary, between Dr Holthuis and the applicant. This eventually resulted in Dr Holthuis changing his vote to 'for'. RVM].

ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for the names placed on Official Lists by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

columbia, Selkirkia, Conway Morris, 1977, *Special Pap. Palaeontology,* No. 20, p. 33

Selkirkia Walcott, 1911, *Smithson. misc. Collns.*, vol. 57(5), p. 120.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (85)1 were cast as set out above, that the proposal contained in that voting paper has been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 1337.

R. V. MELVILLE
Secretary
International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature
London
10 May 1985